

Steven L. Beshear / Governor
J. Michael Brown / Secretary
John W. Bizzack, Ph.D. / Commissioner
Ken Schwendeman / Executive Director

2014 KLEC Shein Award Honors Secretary J. Michael Brown

RICHMOND, Ky. – The 2014 Shein Award, honoring the Kentuckian contributing to the support and advancement of the Kentucky law enforcement during the year, was recently presented to Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown.

Named for Dr. Melvin Shein of Louisville and presented annually since 1973, the Shein Award is considered the highest honor of Kentucky law enforcement.

In seven years as secretary, Secretary Brown has managed an active cabinet, with nearly 8,000 employees in seven major departments, including Kentucky's Department of Corrections, Department of Criminal Justice Training, Department of Juvenile Justice, Public Advocacy, Kentucky State Police, Office of Drug Control Policy and Office of the State Medical Examiner.

An advocate for law enforcement policies in Frankfort, he has spearheaded multiple policing initiatives, including the passage of House Bill 463, which modernized Kentucky's drug laws, among other initiatives, and a thorough analysis of the state's KLEFPF proficiency awards status.

"It's an honor to be recognized by such a dedicated team of law enforcement professionals," Secretary Brown said. "For the past seven years I've had the luxury of working with committed officers, command and support staff who have made it possible to weather the challenges we've faced, implement the changes we've needed, and make life better for all Kentuckians."

Directly involved with the work of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, Secretary Brown has built an excellent reputation among the law enforcement community.

"Secretary Brown has singularly distinguished himself as a friend of professional law enforcement," said John W. Bizzack, DOCJT commissioner. "From his unique position and perspective, he has maintained a steady course through a number of challenges to the profession and interests of law enforcement."

An Army veteran and member of the Kentucky bar, Secretary Brown previously served as an assistant county attorney and district court judge in Jefferson County. He also served on the board for the Louisville Regional Airport Authority.

"Secretary Brown epitomizes what the Shein Award stands for," KSP Commissioner Rodney Brewer said. "He is intellectually curious about all aspects of the cabinet, has developed a leadership style of trust and earned respect for those who work with him."